

(c) the role played by the Tribal Development Corporation of the Ministry so long for their welfare?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There is now no separate National Tribal Finance and Development Corporation. However, existing National Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Finance and Development Corporation (NSFDC) has been working for the economic development of both for SCs and STs since its inception on 08.02.1989. As on 31.07.2000, 827 schemes have been sanctioned by the NSFDC for ST beneficiaries. In addition, 40 training programmes have been exclusively organized for STs for benefiting 1670 ST persons.

Upliftment of Tribal Belts

*399. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are committed to economic development of the tribal belts by ensuring remunerative prices for the products collected/cultivated by tribals and providing marketing support to their State level organizations;

(b) if so, what achievements have been made in real terms during the last three years with corresponding figures;

(c) what are Government's future plans to attain the upliftment of tribal belts throughout the country including Andaman and Nicobar Islands; and

(d) what specific machinery has been created to achieve the said objectives?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. In order to provide marketing assistance and remunerative prices to the tribals for their minor forest produce and surplus agricultural produce and to wean them away from private traders and middlemen, Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation (TRIFED), a national level cooperative body, was set up in the year 1956. The achievements of the organization during the last three years are given in Annexure-I. Besides, under the Central Sector Scheme of grant in aid to State Tribal Development Cooperative Corporations

(STDCCs), grants are released to the State Governments for taking up minor forest produce operations. Details of grants released during the last three years are also give at Statement-I (See below).

The Government of India has already adopted Tribal Sub Plan strategy with the objectives of (i) bringing the tribals on par with other sections of the society and (ii) protecting them from exploitation. The TSP strategy is in operation in 18 States and 2 UTs including Andaman and Nicobar Islands. In order to fulfill these objectives, 194 Integrated Tribal Development Projects (ITDPs), 259 Modified Area Development Approach Pockets (MADAs) and 82 Clusters have been constituted through out the country. Moreover, 75 Primitive Tribal Groups (PTGs) have been identified in 15 State/UTs, 5 of them belong to Andaman and Nicobar Islands, and development of these PTGs is undertaken through micro projects. A new Central Sector Scheme of development of PTGs throughout the country has been introduced since 1998-99. The details of ITDPs, MADAs, Clusters and PTGs in TSP are as are given at Statement-II.

Statement - I

(A) A Statement of Trifed's Procurement and Marketing Operations During the Last three years.

Year	Procurement of Minor Forest Produce / Surplus Agricultural Produce	Domestic Sales	Exports Sales	Total Sales
1997-98	75.57	96.59	13.21	109.80
1998-99	31.92	35.78	13.39	49.17
1999-2000	75.12	50.79	15.49	66.28
(Provisional)				

[21 August, 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

(B) Grants Released to States Under State Tribal Development Cooperative Corporation Scheme during the last three years

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	STATE	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
1	Andhra Pradesh	100.00	-	300.00
2	Bihar	-	79.00	-
3	Gujarat	123.89	-	150.00
4	Kerala	50.00	50.00	130.00
5	Madhya Pradesh	200.00	255.00	-
6	Orissa	100.00	200.00	200.00
7	Rajasthan	50.00	-	25.00
8.	Maharashtra	99.50	100.00	-
9	Tripura	-	-	50.00
10	West Bengal	100	-	50.00
11	Karnataka	-	03.00	-
TOTAL :		823.39	687.00	905.00

Statement-II

Detailed position of Integrated Tribal Development Projects (ITDPs), Modified Area Development Approach (MADA) pockets, Cluster and Primitive Tribal Groups in Tribal Sub-Plan area.

Sl.No.	States/U.T.s	Number of			
		No. of ITDPs/ ITDAS	MADA	Clusters	Primitive Tribal Groups
1	Andhra Pradesh	8	41	17	12
2	Assam	19	-	-	-
3	Bihar	14	41	7	9
4	Gujarat	9	1	-	5
5	Himachal Pradesh	5	2	-	-
6	Jammu & Kashmir	-	-	-	-
7	Karnataka	5	-	-	2
8	Kerala	7	-	-	5

Sl.No.	States/U.T.s	Number of			
		No. of ITDPs/ ITDAS	MADA	Clusters	Primitive Tribal Groups
9	Madhya Pradesh	49	39	8	7
10	Maharashtra	16	44	24	3
11	Manipur	5	-	-	1
12	Orissa	21	46	14	13
13	Rajasthan	5	44	11	1
14	Sikkim	4	-	-	-
15	Tamil Nadu	9	-	-	6
16	Tripura	3	-	-	1
17	Uttar Pradesh	1	1	-	2
18	West Bengal	12	-	1	3
UNION TERRITORY					
19	A&N Islands	1	-	-	5
20	Daman & Diu	1	-	-	-
TOTAL:		194	259	82	75

Schemes to Ameliorate Pitiabie Conditions of Old People in Maharashtra

*400. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to observe the year 2000 as 'year of elderly people';

(b) if so, the steps taken and schemes introduced to ameliorate the pitiabie conditions of this section of society in Maharashtra;

(c) whether Government propose to set up a National Commission for Old People; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Yes, Sir.